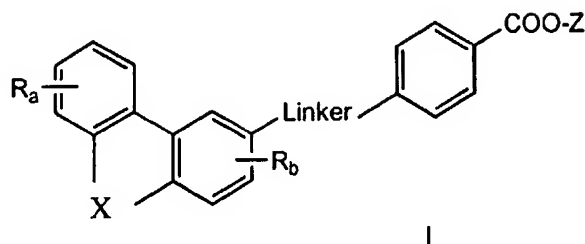


In the claims:

1. (Original) A compound represented by formula I



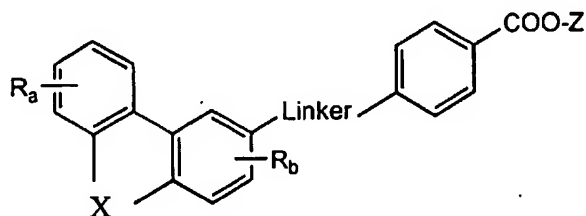
or a nontoxic pharmaceutically acceptable salt, physiologically hydrolyzable ester or solvate thereof, wherein

R_a and R_b are independently selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, halogen, hydroxy, nitro, amino, substituted amino, mercapto, polyfluoroalkyl, C₁₋₆ alkyl, substituted C₁₋₆ alkyl, C₁₋₆ alkoxy, C₁₋₆ alkylthio, formyl, carboxyl, aryl or heteroaryl;

Linker is selected from the group consisting of C₂ alkyl, C₂ alkenyl, C₂ alkynyl, --C(=O)-NH--, --NH-C(=O)--, --CH₂O--, --O-C(=O)--, --C(=S)-NH--, --C(=O)-O--, --C(=O)-S--, --S-C(=O)--, --S-CH₂--, --CH₂-NH--, --C(=O)-CH₂--, --NH-C(=S)--, --CH₂S--, --OCH₂--, --NHCH₂;

X is O, S, -C(R₁)₂, C=O, -C(R₁)₂Y-- or --YC(R₁)₂--, wherein Y is selected from the group consisting of O, S and C(R₂)₂, wherein R₁ and R₂ are, independently, hydrogen or methyl; and Z is hydrogen or C₁₋₆ alkyl.

2. (Original) A compound represented by formula I



or a nontoxic pharmaceutically acceptable salt, physiologically hydrolyzable ester or solvate thereof, wherein

R_a and R_b are independently selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, halogen, hydroxy, nitro, amino, mercapto, CF_3 , C_{1-6} alkyl, halosubstituted C_{1-6} alkyl, hydroxy-substituted C_{1-6} alkyl, aminosubstituted C_{1-6} alkyl, C_{1-6} alkoxy, C_{1-6} alkylthio, formyl, carboxyl, mono- or di- C_{1-6} alkyl-substituted amino, aryl or heteroaryl;

Linker is selected from the group consisting of $--CH=CH--$, $--C\equiv C--$, $--C(=O)-NH--$, $--NH-C(=O)--$, $--CH_2O--$, $--O-C(=O)--$, $--C(=S)-NH--$, $--C(=O)-O--$, $--C(=O)-S--$, $--S-C(=O)--$, $--S-CH_2--$, $--CH_2-CH_2--$, $--CH_2-NH--$, $--C(=O)-CH_2--$, $--NH-C(=S)--$, $--CH_2S--$, $--OCH_2--$, $--NHCH_2$ or $--CR_c=CR_d--$, wherein R_c and R_d are independently hydrogen or C_{1-6} alkyl;

X is O, S, $-C(R_1)_2$, $C=O$, $-C(R_1)_2Y--$ or $--YC(R_1)_2--$, wherein Y is selected from the group consisting of O, S and $C(R_2)_2$, and R_1 and R_2 are, independently, hydrogen or methyl; and

Z is hydrogen or C_{1-6} alkyl.

3. (Original) The compound of claim 2 wherein X is $-C(R_1)_2Y--$ or $--YC(R_1)_2--$, wherein Y is selected from the group consisting of O, S and $C(R_2)_2$ and R_1 and R_2 are, independently, hydrogen or methyl.

4. Cancelled

5. (Original) The compound of claim 3 wherein Linker is $--CH=CH-$ or $--C\equiv C--$.

6. Cancelled

7. Cancelled

8. Cancelled

9. Cancelled

10. (Original) A pharmaceutical composition comprising a therapeutically effective amount of a compound of Claim 1 and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier therefor.

11. (Original) A pharmaceutical composition comprising a therapeutically effective amount of a compound of Claim 2 and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier therefor.

12. (Original) A pharmaceutical composition comprising a therapeutically effective amount of a compound of Claim 3 and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier therefor.

13. Cancelled

14. Cancelled

15. Cancelled

16. Cancelled

17. Cancelled

18. Cancelled

19. Cancelled

20. Cancelled